

## MY WATER APPEARS TO HAVE AN OILY OR RAINBOW SHEEN

LIKELY PROBLEM	HEALTH CONCERN?	OTHER CLUES & CONSIDERATIONS	CONFIRM IT	POSSIBLE FIXES	LICENSE REQUIRED FOR FIX?	STATE FUNDS?	MORE INFO
<b>Iron Bacteria</b> See <a href="#">Iron Bacteria</a> brochure.	No, iron bacteria live off iron in the water. They are a nuisance, but not a threat to your health. There is no drinking water standard for iron bacteria.	Is there slime on the walls of the toilet tank? Is there evidence of iron in your water; for example, red stains on plumbing fixtures or on laundry?	Request a lab test for iron bacteria. <a href="#">Laboratories certified to test for coliform bacteria</a> may also test for iron bacteria. Ask the lab.	<b>Flush system and use more water</b>	No	No	See <a href="#">Bacteriological Contamination of Drinking Water</a> brochure.
				<b>Shock chlorination</b>	No	No	
				<b>Well cleaning</b>	No, but licensed <a href="#">Well Drillers</a> or <a href="#">Pump Installers</a> have the needed equipment.	No	
				<b>Continuous pellet chlorination</b>	Licensed <a href="#">Pump Installers</a> or well owners must install. DNR recommends that license holders install.	No	Requires advance DNR approval. See <a href="#">Pellet Chlorination Application</a> .

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POSSIBLE PROBLEM	HEALTH CONCERN?	OTHER CLUES & CONSIDERATIONS	CONFIRM IT	POSSIBLE FIXES	LICENSE REQUIRED FOR FIX?	STATE FUNDS?	MORE INFO
<b>Sulfur Bacteria</b> See <a href="#">Sulfur Bacteria</a> brochure.	No, sulfur bacteria are not a threat to human health and there is no drinking water standard. Hydrogen sulfide gas can be harmful to humans, but not at the levels produced by bacteria in wells.	Sometimes odors are more noticeable after a period of low water use. There are two types of bacteria: sulfur-oxidizing and sulfur-reducing. Hydrogen sulfide gas (produced by sulfur-reducing bacteria) is highly corrosive and can damage plumbing connections, metal piping and well casing. Some sulfur bacteria form deposits that can clog a well screen and pump piping.	Sulfur bacteria samples are difficult to collect and take a long time to analyze. You may wish to have your water tested for iron bacteria instead. <a href="#">Laboratories certified to test for coliform bacteria</a> may also test for iron bacteria. Ask the lab.	<b>Periodic shock chlorination</b>	No, but licensed <a href="#">Well Drillers</a> or <a href="#">Pump Installers</a> have the knowledge and equipment.	No	See <a href="#">Bacteriological Contamination of Drinking Water</a> brochure.
				<b>Increase water heater temperature temporarily and drain tank</b>	No, but do not attempt unless water heater has a pressure relief valve.	No	
				<b>Replace magnesium anode rods in heater with zinc or aluminum rods if the problem appears to be only with the hot water</b>	No, but recommend a licensed plumber.	No	This will reduce, but not eliminate sulfur bacteria.
				<b>Continuous pellet chlorination</b>	Licensed <a href="#">Pump Installers</a> or well owners must install. DNR recommends that license holders install.	No	Requires advance DNR approval. See <a href="#">Pellet Chlorination Application</a> .

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POSSIBLE PROBLEM	HEALTH CONCERN?	OTHER CLUES & CONSIDERATIONS	CONFIRM IT	POSSIBLE FIXES	LICENSE REQUIRED FOR FIX?	STATE FUNDS?	MORE INFO
<b>Fuel Oil or Diesel Fuel</b> See <a href="#">VOCs in Drinking Water</a> brochure.	Yes, if components of fuel oil or diesel oil exceed <a href="#">drinking water standards</a> . See Department of <a href="#">Health Fact Sheets</a> for MTBE, benzene, toluene and xylene.	Is there a fuel oil tank or was there a spill nearby? Did the problem start suddenly?	Send a sample to a <a href="#">laboratory certified by DNR to perform gasoline and VOC analyses</a> . Test for gasoline range organics (GRO) or petroleum VOCs.	<b>Installation of Dept. of Commerce approved water treatment device.</b> Devices are listed under contaminants they will remove.	Yes, treatment devices must be installed by licensed plumbers; or in some cases may be installed by the owner/occupant of a single family private residence. See <a href="#">plumbing license laws</a> . Be sure the treatment device chosen is capable of removing the level of contaminant you have in your water.	Yes, if <a href="#">drinking water standards</a> are exceeded; eligibility criteria met; and approval received first. See <a href="#">well replacement program</a> .	<a href="#">University of Wisconsin Extension</a>  <a href="#">National Ground Water Association</a>  <a href="#">Water Systems Council</a>  <a href="#">National Sanitation Foundation</a>
				<b>Deepen well casing or drill new well</b>	Yes, licensed <a href="#">Well Drillers</a>	Yes, see above.	